



U.S. Department of Justice

Ronald C. Machen Jr.
*United States Attorney for the
District of Columbia*

*Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530*

PRESS RELEASE

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For Information Contact:

Public Affairs

(202) 252-6933

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Virginia Man Sentenced to 37 Months in Prison For Using Counterfeit Checks to Steal More Than \$125,000 - Counterfeit Checks Deposited into Accounts for Sham Companies -

WASHINGTON - Tyrone Evans, 52, was sentenced today to 37 months in prison for a scheme in which he stole more than \$125,000 by depositing counterfeit checks into accounts opened in the name of sham companies, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Evans, originally from Portsmouth, Virginia, pled guilty in May 2011 to bank fraud. He was sentenced in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia by Senior Judge Thomas F. Hogan. As part of his plea, Evans agreed to pay restitution in the amount of \$126,561.

As part of the plea, Evans admitted that between 2006 and 2009, he repeatedly used counterfeit checks to defraud several federally-insured banks, at branches in Washington, D.C. and Maryland. He deposited counterfeit checks drawn on the legitimate bank accounts of real companies. Then the proceeds from the counterfeit checks went into accounts Evans had opened in the name of various sham companies. Evans then withdrew the proceeds before the counterfeit nature of the checks could be discovered.

In addition, Evans admitted that he conducted a related scheme – an “account takeover” – in which he deposited counterfeit checks into the legitimate account of a real bank customer and then withdrew the funds from the customer’s bank account.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen commended Special Agent John McCarty, who investigated the case for the U.S. Secret Service’s Washington Field Office, as well as officers and agents with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Montgomery County, Maryland Police Department, and the Alexandria, Virginia Police Department. He also acknowledged the efforts of those who worked on the case from the U.S. Attorney’s Office, including Paralegals Margaret McCabe and Krishawn Graham, and Assistant U.S. Attorneys

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Bridget M. Fitzpatrick, April Fearnley and Jonathan Hooks, who prosecuted the matter.

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